DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20030108003 A1

TITLE: Universal personal electronic device power-off or other operating mode change enforcement

---------- KWIC ---------

Detail Description Paragraph - DETX (38):

[0053] Thus, the present invention provides an improved method, apparatus, and computer instructions for controlling operating modes of devices in venues that require devices to have selected operating modes. The present invention provides this advantage by using a change the operating mode of device in the venue. The operating mode may be stored and restored by the mechanism of the present invention. Also, the device may be allowed to change to another operating mode while in the venue. In this manner, selected devices, such as cellular phones, PDAs, and laptop computers may be turned off in an aircraft with a device such as a PDA being turned on after the aircraft has taken off

while the cellular phone remains in an off operating mode till the aircraft reaches a gate.

US 20030108003A1

(19) United States

(12) Patent Application Publication (10) Pub. No.: US 2003/0108003 A1

Dietz (43) Pub. Date: Jun. 12, 2003

(54) UNIVERSAL PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE POWER-OFF OR OTHER OPERATING MODE CHANGE ENFORCEMENT

(75) Inventor: Timothy Alan Dietz, Austin, TX (US)

Correspondence Address:
Duke W. Yee
Carstens, Yee & Cahoon, LLP
P.O. Box 802334
Dallas, TX 75380 (US)

(73) Assignees: International Business Machines Corporation, Armonk, NY (US); IBM Corporation

(21) Appl. No.: 09/981,896

(22) Filed: Oct. 18, 2001

Publication Classification

(51) Int. Cl.[7] G08C 17/00; H04Q 5/22

(52) U.S. Cl. 370/311; 340/7.33; 340/10.34

(57) ABSTRACT

A method, apparatus, and computer implemented instructions for enforcing power-off or operating mode change in personal electronic devices. The present invention causes a personal electronic device to change to a required operating mode as indicated by a broadcasted signal in a venue that restricts access of personal electronic devices. Additionally, the personal electronic device can reset to a previous operating mode, i.e., the operating mode prior the enforced change upon receipt of an appropriate broadcast signal.